House Resolution No.

Whereas, the members of the Missouri House of Representatives take great pleasure in acknowledging milestone events in the lives and careers of Show-Me State residents who have effectively devoted themselves to increasing the quality of life for millions of Americans; and

Whereas, Ann Kunkel of Oregon, Missouri, has long promoted specialized education which focuses on arthritis diseases, therapies that will ease the pain associated with musculoskeletal disease, and research into prevention and treatment of the disease which affects so many people; and

Whereas, a noted volunteer and the only non-physician member of the American College of Rheumatology, Ann Kunkel works part-time as the education coordinator in the Pediatric Rheumatology Department of the University of Kansas Medical Center; and

Whereas, with firsthand experience with arthritic disease, Ann Kunkel has vasculitis, and each of her children developed juvenile arthritis, including twenty-six-year-old Kristen, a recreational therapist at Heartland Regional Medical Center; twenty-two-year-old Kara, a student at Missouri Southern College in Joplin; KaLea, a seventeen-year-old junior at South Holt High School; and sixteen-year-old Drew, a freshman at South Holt; and

Whereas, Ann Kunkel is a member of the Board of Directors and the Executive Committee for the Greater Kansas City Chapter of the Arthritis Foundation and is chairman of its Advocacy Committee; member of the Association of Rheumatology Health Professionals; chairman of the American Juvenile Arthritis Organization; and member of the Board of Trustees of the national Arthritis Foundation; and

Whereas, during its 2001 national meeting in San Jose, California, the Arthritis Foundation presented Ann Kunkel with its highest volunteer award, the Charles B. Harding Award for Distinguished Service, at a black-tie awards dinner to which the organization had secretly brought her husband, Gary, and most of her children to witness her surprise at the well-deserved honors and accolades:

Now, therefore, be it resolved that we, the members of the Missouri House of Representatives, Ninety-first General Assembly, join unanimously to applaud the selection of Ann Kunkel for the Charles B. Harding Award for Distinguished Service from the national Arthritis Foundation and to convey to her this legislative body's heartiest congratulations and best wishes for continued personal and professional success for many years to come; and

Be it further resolved that the Chief Clerk of the Missouri House of Representatives be instructed to prepare a properly inscribed copy of this resolution in honor of the life and work of Ann Kunkel of Oregon, Missouri.

Offered by
Representative Daniel J. Hegeman
District No. 5
I, Jim Kreider, Speaker of the House of Representatives,
Ninety-first General Assembly, Second Regular Session, do
certify that the above is a true and correct copy of House
Resolution No, adopted, 2002.
Jim Kreider Speaker

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